

*SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS*

Replace paragraph [0008] with:

The invention is directed to a polishing pad comprising a porous polymeric material, wherein the porous polymeric material has a Poisson's ratio less than 0. The Poisson's ratio is the ratio of lateral contraction strain to longitudinal strain. The Poisson's ratio ( $\nu$ ) is related to bulk modulus (B), Young's modulus (E), and shear modulus (G) by the following relationships:

$$\begin{aligned} B &= 2G(1 + \nu)/3(1 - 2\nu); \\ G &= E/2(1 - \nu) \quad G = E/2(1 + \nu); \text{ and} \\ B &= E/3(1 - 2\nu). \end{aligned}$$